Sir, nuclear materials should be utilised to play an important role in keeping peace and in peaceful uses such as their application in medicine and as energy source.

For the purpose of nuclear strategy and arms control, international stability is to be increased along with other factors mentioned earlier, that is, the spirit of universal brotherhood which is to be infused. Sir, goodwill should also prevail among the nations. Our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and Chairperson of the NAM, Non-aligned Movement, has already given a call to the world in this context, advocating nuclear disarmament to avoid destruction of the universe and to bring peace and harmony on earth.

So far as chemical warfare is concerned, this should be banned through discussions in an international forum, as mentioned by our hon. colleague, Shri S. S. Mohapatra. Sir, during the Second World War, dimethyl sulphate, a poisonous chemical, was used. It causes painful death. The persons's skin and blood are poisoned. Similar situation is with the nitre compounds used in chemical warfare. Therefore, the use of poisonous chemicals in warfare should be totally banned through discussions at the international level.

With these few words, I would like to support the proposal that there should be total ban on nuclear armament all over the world, and our hon. Members will also support me on this particular issue.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU): Now the Hon'ble Minister for Civil Aviation, Shri Khursheed Alam Khan will make a statement.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Re: Hijacking of Indian Airlines Boeing Aircraft

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, unfortunately so far we do not have any detailed information about the hijacking of the Indian Airlines Boeing Aircraft No. IC 421. But whatever information I have and on the basis of which I made a small statement in the morning before the other House, I would like to repeat the same here. The flight bearing No. IC-421 was on its way from Delhi to Srinagar *via* Chandigarh and Jammu, took off from Delhi at 6.15 in the morning and from Chandigarh at 7.35. The aircraft hijacked was over-flying Jammu from where it proceeded to Lahore—the present location. This was in the morning. Present location at 0930 hours it was 25 miles North of Lahore. The aircraft landing at Lahore was 0950 hours. The first information of hijacking was received at 0835 hrs. by Air Traffic Control Delhi from Indian Airforce Movement Control. The break-up of the passengers is not yet known. But it is reported in the morning and we got the information that 41 passengers boarded from Chandigarh on confirmation it was found that 31 passengers have boarded from Chandigarh. Capt. V. K. Mehta is the pilot and the co-pilot is Capt. B. L. Ghadi. The air-hostesses are : Miss A. Singh and Urwashi Sambal. The identity of hijackers, their numbers and weapons are not yet known. But subsequently it appears that they have only kirpans which is yet to be confirmed. They have only one demand to go to U.S.A. There is no demand which they have made to this country. At 1009 hrs. hijackers have threatened Pakistan authorities that if the aircraft was not refuelled they would blow up the aircraft. Again at 1012 hrs. the hijackers have threatened that if refuelling was not done immediately they would kill one passenger after the other. This has not happened. Although their threats seem not realistic. I have been sitting all the time in the control room and the additional information I got was that there were no casualties. All passengers and crew members are safe. As I have already said negotiations are in progress between the Pakistan authorities and the hijackers. The hijackers are demanding permission to take the aircraft to U.S.A. and they have also demanded that the refuelling should be done immediately. The refuelling has

[Shri Khurshed Alam Khan]

been done and they have indicated their intention to fly from Lahore to Bahrain. But everything till now is very uncertain. Nothing is yet confirmed and, therefore, only it will be possible for me to make a confirmed statement when all the information is available. I thought I will take the hon. Members into confidence and let them know that this is the information which we have and from here I will go back to the control room.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU): A few hon. Members can seek clarifications from the Hon'ble Minister.

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA (Haryana): I would like to know whether the hijackers have boarded the plane from Delhi or Chandigarh. The security arrangements either at Delhi or Chandigarh must be faulty, otherwise they could not have boarded the aircraft with these long kirpans. If the kirpans were there with the hijackers they cannot certainly be six inches kirpans. They must be having bigger kirpans to frighten those people. If it is from Delhi or Chandigarh then who are the security officials responsible for the security check. Surely by this time the Hon'ble Minister must have come to know as to where the lapses have taken place. This is point number one. Secondly, when you know that this is a sensitive flight—in the Delhi-Chandigarh-Srinagar sector hijacking has always been taking place— why is extraordinary care not taken? I heard it on the radio myself that the pilot had fainted How did he faint? Was it out of fear or because of some hurt caused to him? What happened? Or was the news wrong? It come on All India Radio. I heard it myself at a quarter to two that both the pilot and the co-pilot had fainted. If both of them had fainted, who steered the plane from the point that they fainted up to Lahore? Also I heard the news that the plane was circling over Amritsar for at least half an hour and your people at Amritsar were noticing that the plane was circling for half an hour. During that half an hour, what happened? What did the authorities do in the matter? If no contact could be made with the plane, was any other method employed to know what was the fault in it and to remedy it? These are important things and these details you must have got by now.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU): There are five or six names for seeking clarifications. The Minister may reply at the end. Mr. Mohapatra.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPTRA (Orissa): Sir, this is always happening, this hijacking to Pakistan. When it was hijacked last time, we all came to know from newspaper reports that it was a melodrama in Lahore because pleasantries were exchanged between the hijackers and the Pakistani officials. This time again it has happened with Pakistan since the nearest point is Labore. So the Minister may like to find out what connection these hijackers—I don't know whether they are Sikh rebels or what type of people they are—have with Pakistan. I think you should go into this matter.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, it is a very serious matter. For the second time this to happening. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any extra precautions were taken after the first incident so that this sector, the Chandigarh-Srinagar sector, was made more secure and safe. This has shocked the people of our country. The security and safety of our planes is at low ebb. It has been stated on the radio—I would like to know it from the Minister—that about 12 persons boarded at Chandigarh and probably they were Khalistani people. I would like to know whether any check was made at that time. How could they board the plane with weapons? This is a very serious matter. Otherwise with safety of any passenger will be at stake. Therefore, has he any informattion about the checking at the Chandigarh airport? How is it possible for them to get into the plane without being properly checked at the airport?

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: (Jammu and Kashmir): What is the number of passengers and crew?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU): I will call those who have given their names. Mr. Ramanand Yadav.

श्री रामानन्द यादव (बिहार) : श्रीमन, मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि हाईजैकर्स जो हैं, उनकी संख्या कितनी थी ? उनकी आइडेंटिफिकेशन क्या है ? कुछ समझ में आया है कि वह किस तरह के हैं--पोलिटिकल-माइंडेड हैं, जाबसीकर्स हैं, या वह एक्स्ट्रीमिस्टस हैं, पाकिस्तानी हैं, किस तरह के हैं, इसके संबंध में सरकार को कुछ ज्ञान है ?

दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या पेसेंजर्स को रेस्कयू करने में पाकिस्तान की सरकार आपके साथ कोआपरेट कर रही है ?

तीसरे, क्या आपके एम्बैसेडर वहां पहुंच गये हैं और नेगोसिएशंस में उनको शामिल किया जा रहा है ?

चौथे, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आपने कहा कि प्लेन में रेफ्यूलिंग कर दिया गया है--क्या पाकिस्तान की सरकार ने रेफ्यूलिंग इस इंटेंशन से किया है कि उसे उड़ कर के अमरीका जाने की सुविधा मिल सके, क्या इस बात की सम्भावना है ?

इसके संबंध में क्या आप हाऊस को इनलाइटन करेंगे ?

श्री प्यारेलाल खंडेलवाल (मध्य प्रदेश) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अभी कुछ ही दिनों में यह दूसरी हवाई अपहरण की घटना हुई है । कुछ समय पहले श्रीनगर से एक हवाई जहाज का अपहरण हुआ था और दूसरा दिल्ली से उड़ने वाले हवाई जहाज का अपहरण हुआ । इससे यह मालूम होता है कि सरकार सुरक्षा के संबंध में कितनी असावधान है । जब पहली बार अपहरण हुआ था तब यह बात कही गई थी, पर मैं दो-तीन बातें कहना चाहता हूं कि जब दिल्ली से यह हवाई जहाज उड़ा तो क्या उस समय पूरी सुरक्षा जांच की गई थी ? अगर की गई थी तो कोई यात्री तलवार लेकर उसके अन्दर कैसे गया ? क्योंकि माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी कहा कि एक अपहरण करने वाले व्यक्ति के पास एक तलवार थी ? दूसरी बात मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि यह समाचार है भी कि पायलट को बेहोश किया गया और यह भी एक समाचार फैला हुआ है कि उसको इंजेक्शन दिया गया । पायलट को इंजेक्शन लगा करके बेहोश किया गया, यह दूसरी बात जानना चाहता हूं । तीसरी बात यह कही जा रही है कि उसमें 31 या 41 पेसेंजर थे, क्या सरकार को अभी तक यह स्थिति स्पष्ट नहीं हुई कि उसमें कितने पेसेंजर हैं । अगर हैं तो कौन-कौन हैं और उसकी लिस्ट क्या है ? क्योंकि पेसेंजर जब बैठता है तो उसकी लिस्ट बन जाती है, जो यात्री उसके अन्दर हैं उनके परिवार वालों को बताने की दृष्टि से भी, और उनकी पूरी सुरक्षा की व्यवस्था हुई है या नहीं, यह भी सरकार को जानकारी देनी चाहिए । यह बात भी कही जा रही है कि जो अपहरणकर्ता लाहौर में जहाज में तेल भरवा कर उसको कनाडा या अमेरिका ले जाना चाहते थे ? क्या यह सही हकीकत है और यह सदन के सामने आनी चाहिए । मैं समझता हूं कि इस बारे में सरकार जल्दी स्थिति स्पष्ट करेगी ?

SHRI P. N. SUKUL (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, it is indeed a very serious thing that has happened again.

[Shri P. N. Sukul]

The Minister has said just now that he had been sitting all the time in the Control Room. I would like to ask him whether he has been able to contact the Pakistani authorities, and, if so, what the reaction has been of the Pakistan Government, whether they are going to return the passengers along with the aircraft, and, if so, when. Secondly, what are the details of the hijackers? Are they Hindus or Muslims or Kashmiris or non-Kashmiris or Akalis? What are they? Thirdly, in view of the seriousness of this mishap what further precautions is the Minister going to take to ensure that such incidents do not recur in future?

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, शायद इसी महीने में इसी प्रकार की घटना पूर्व भी घटना थी और वह भी लाहौर ही ले जाया गया था इंडिया का प्लेन । कितनी लज्जा की बात है देश और देश की सरकार के लिए कि हमारी इंटलीजेंस और हमारी पुलिस सर्वथा फेल रही है पिछली बार भी और इस बार भी । माननीय मंत्री जी जवाब भी दे दे लेकिन संतोष न उन्हे होगा और न ही देश-वासियों को और इस प्रकार की घटनाओं का दोहराया जाना सर्वथा अनुचित है । तो क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतायेंगे कि कितने व्यक्ति थे जिन्होंने हाईजैक किया ? क्या-क्या उनके पास हथियार थे ? उन्होंने ही इनको बेहोश किया वे पायलट घबरा करके बेहोश हुए और उसमें कितने पेसेंजर्स थे और किस समय ? समय का तो शायद अखबार में ही था कि सुबह ही गए थे और पुलिस द्वारा क्या सभी जगह दिल्ली में भी और चंडीगढ़ में भी पूरा चैकिंग हो चुका था और अगर हो चुका था तो किस आधार पर वह पूरा चैकिंग हो चुका था ? फिर किस प्रकार हाईजक करने में उन्हे सफलता प्राप्त हुई ?

PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, this is perhaps the tenth incident of hijacking in the last few years that we have. I would like to know whether the Government contemplates a preventive measure or a measure to take some serious action against the hijackers. I was told on many occasions they really did not have any weapons other than kripans or something which appeared like a bomb or something like that. I wonder whether the Government would think of having some plainclothesmen, some sharp-shooters, so that when the crew are threatened by the hijackers, these people could act. Are they thinking of some alternative method of preventing such incidents in future? This has been happening to offen and particularly in this region which is a sensitive area where the desperadoes operate.

SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT (Madhya Pradesh): We are passing through extraordinary times. Already some Members have said that this is not the first time that this has happened. I was happy to note the other day when I was travelling by plane that some extra precautionary security measures are taken Apart from the first security check, they conducted another check at the time of boarding the plane also. Apart from that, they should check and watch the activities of these operating in this area, leaders and members of the Class IV staff in the IAC. Secondly, because these things are happening all along in the Indo-Pakistani region, have the Government got any such proposal under which we should come to an understanding with our neighbouring countries so that when this takes place in future there will be perfect understanding among the countries as to what should be done with the hijackers who take refuge in these countries?

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : मान्यवर, एक प्रश्न और । कृपया मेरे को इसका जवाब दीजिएगा कि क्या सिक्योरिटी की और ी व्यवस्था सरकार की तरफ से प्लेन में रहती है ?

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: Sir, as I have said in the very begining, I quite share the anxiety of the Hon'ble Members and I am also quite worried about it. But one thing I would like to assure the Hon'ble Members that every possible precautionary measure has been taken and in fact we are reviewing the security arrangements from week to week and we get in touch with the Chief Ministers of the States every week. As the Hon'ble Members may be aware, security arrangements are provided by the State Governments and, therefore, we always remind them and keep them on alert.

Quite a few Members have asked whether the hijackers boarded the aircraft from Delhi or from Chandigarh. Aparently, it seems—it has to be confirmed later on—that they boarded the aircraft from Chandigarh, as usual. I would like also to make it clear that the cabin crew and cockpit crew are perfectly alrights and there is no such information that they are unconscious or have been unwell or they have been drugged.

श्री बीरेन्द्र वर्मा : रेडियो ने तो यही बताया है . . .

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: I am not either denying anybody—I am making this statement before the Hon'ble Members on the basis of the information that I have with me. I also mentioned that the whole day I have been—and again as soon as I finish my statement I will go back to the Control Room. We are in touch with the authorities of the Pakistan constantly and they are in touch with the hijackers and negotiations are going on between them. We are being fed with information from the Pakistani side. The information that we got from one of the lady passengers, a Norwegian who was not well—she has been released by the hijackers. The statement she has made to the Pakistan authorities—from whom we have got this information—is that they do not have any weapon with them except the kirpans. But what will be ultimately we will know what they have.

Some Hon'ble Members wanted to know how many passengers there were in the aircraft. There were 86 passengers and six crew in all. Our Ambassador is already at Lahore and he is very much in touch with us and in touch with the Pakistan authorities.

Now, extra precautions we have already taken as the hon. Members perhaps know.

SHRI S. W. DHABE: What are the additional steps you are taking?

SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: As a corollary of the statement, is there any threat regarding the blowing up of the plane?

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: Who can stop them from saying anything what they want to say? And if they were really going to do that, then that time has passed. Anyway, I am not going into what argument at this point of time.

Apart from the normal precautions that have been taken for the security by providing metal door frame detectors, hand held metal delectors and X-ray machines at the most sensitive airports, we have also provided hand held metal detector arrangements at the ladder point when passengers board the aircraft.

As I said in my original statement, they have made no demands to the Government. They have only made a demand to the Pakistan authorities that they want to go to the United States. That is the only demand. The Pakistani authorites are already carrying on negatiations with them and whatever they do, and talk to them, they reply messages and we are in hot line touch with them. Our Ambassader is already there.

At the airports the workers have been given special passes with photographs and only these workers can go into what we call the prohitibited areas.

Now, as regards the dialogue between the two countries regarding the extradiction and other matters, as you know, this is the field of the Foreign Ministry and they are already in touch with each

[Shri Khurshed Alam Khan]

other. What will be the result and outcome of the negotiation I am not in a position to say at this moment.

SHRI S. W. DHABE: What about the safety of passengers?

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: Passengers are all safe. The crew are all safe. Nobody has been killed or nobody has been injured. This is what, briefly, I would like to mention for the information of the hon. Members.

SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Was there any security arrangement within the plane?

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: The hon. Member must have travelled very often in the plane. The security arrangements are on the ground, not in the plane. (*Interruptions*).

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU): Discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri S. S. Mohapatra is over. Now, the Secretary-General will read out the Messages from the Lok Sabha.

MESSAGES FROM THE LOK SABHA

(I) The Constitution (Fifty-first Amendment) Bill, 1984.

(II) The Constitution (Fifty-second Amendment) Bill, 1984.

(III) The Constitution (Fifty-third Amendment) Bill, 1984.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:—

I

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Constitution (Fifty-first Amendment) Bill, 1984, which has been passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd August 1984, in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution."

II

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Constitution Fifty-Second Amendment) Bill, 1984, which has been passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd August, 1984, in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution of India."

III

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Constitution (Fifty-third Amendment) Bill, 1984, which has been passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23rd August, 1984, in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution."

Sir, I lay a copy of each of the Bills on the Table.

REFERENCE TO THE DEMANDS FOR NAMING OF STREETS AND ROADS IN EVERY CAPITAL CITY OF INDIA AFTER THE NAMES OF STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU): Now, we shall take up Special Mentions. Shri Jaichandra Singh.

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH (*Manipur*): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to bring to the notice of the Government of India, particularly the Ministry of Works and Housing, the following suggestions.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Syed Rahmat Ali in the Chair]

India is a big country with a variety of race, religion, language and culture. Each State, big and small, has its own